X-MEN

WORLD SQUADRON SUPREME TOUR™

MARVEL 77 .com

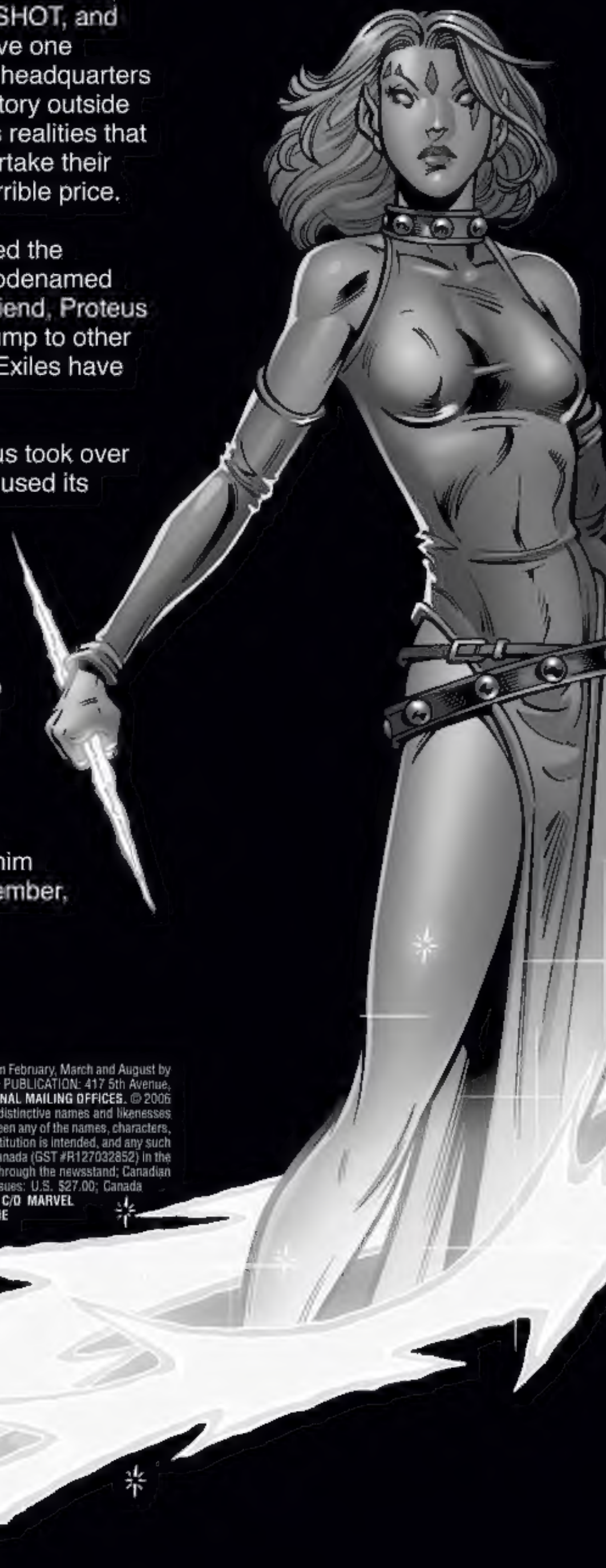
Previously in EXILES:

Gathered together from their own separate realities, BLINK, SABRETOOTH, MORPH, LONGSHOT, and HEATHER HUDSON risk their lives to save one imperiled Earth after another. From their headquarters in the "Crystal Palace"—an alien observatory outside space and time overlooking the countless realities that make up the Multiverse—the Exiles undertake their world-saving missions and often pay a terrible price.

Such was the case when they encountered the body-snatching, reality-warping mutant codenamed PROTEUS. After murdering Blink's boyfriend, Proteus used his own nearly limitless powers to jump to other universes in search of new victims. The Exiles have pursued him ever since.

In the futuristic world of 2099 A.D., Proteus took over the invulnerable body of HULK 2099 and used its massive power to fend off an attack by the Exiles and their new ally, SPIDER-MAN 2099. When their battle attracted news cameras, Proteus unmasked Spider-Man, revealing his identity to a global audience. Proteus then leapt away from the world of 2099 to plague another reality with his awesome new strength.

Unable to return to his private life and feeling responsible for Proteus's escape, Spider-Man 2099 asked the Exiles to let him join their hunt. Now, with their newest member, the Exiles return to the Crystal Palace…



Exiles (ISSN #1540-0964) **No. 77, April, 2006.** Published Monthly except semi-monthly in February, March and August by MARVEL PUBLISHING, INC., a subsidiary of MARVEL ENTERTAINMENT, INC. OFFICE OF PUBLICATION: 417 5th Avenue, New York, NY 10016. **PERIODICALS POSTAGE PAID AT NEW YORK, NY AND AT ADDITIONAL MAILING OFFICES.** © 2006 Marvel Characters, Inc. All rights reserved. All characters featured in this issue and the distinctive names and likenesses thereof, and all related indicia are trademarks of Marvel Characters, Inc. No similarity between any of the names, characters, persons, and/or institutions in this magazine with those of any living or dead person or institution is intended, and any such similarity which may exist is purely coincidental. $2.99 per copy in the U.S. and $4.25 in Canada (GST #R127032852) in the direct market and $2.99 per copy in the U.S. and $4.25 in Canada (GST #R127032852) through the newsstand; Canadian Agreement #40868537. **Printed in the USA.** Subscription rate (U.S. dollars) for 12 issues: U.S. $27.00; Canada $37.00; Foreign $39.00. **POSTMASTER: SEND ALL ADDRESS CHANGES TO Exiles, C/O MARVEL SUBSCRIPTION DEPT. P.O. BOX 30520 SALT LAKE CITY, UT 84130-0520. TELEPHONE # (800) 217-9158. FAX # (801) 228-0877. subscriptions@marvelsubs.com.** AVI ARAD, Chief Creative Officer; ALAN FINE, President & CEO Of Marvel Toys and Marvel Publishing, Inc.; DAVID BOGART, VP Of Publishing Operations; DAN CARR, Director of Production; JUSTIN F. GABRIE, Managing Editor; STAN LEE, Chairman Emeritus. For information regarding advertising in Marvel Comics or on Marvel.com, please contact Joe Maimone, Advertising Director, at jmaimone@marvel.com or 212-576-8534. For Marvel subscription inquiries, please call 800-217-9158.

FLASH

HOLY SHOCK, WHERE *ARE* WE?

WELCOME TO THE "CRYSTAL PALACE."

NOW THAT YOU'RE AN *EXILE*, SPIDEY, YOU'LL BE CALLING THIS PLACE *HOME*.

WHAT TYPE OF *CRYSTAL...?*

BEATS ME. THE *WHOLE PLACE* GLOWS LIKE THAT.

YOU NEED A BLINDFOLD JUST TO TAKE A *NAP* AROUND HERE.

BIT OF A *PEST CONTROL* PROBLEM...?

THAT'S ONE OF THE *TIMEBREAKERS.* THEY HELP RUN THE JOINT.

"TIME-BREAKERS"...? THAT DOESN'T SOUND GOOD.

LONG STORY. I'LL CATCH YOU UP LATER.

SO WHAT'S THIS PLACE LOOK LIKE FROM THE *OUTSIDE?*

Y'KNOW, I NEVER REALLY *THOUGHT* ABOUT IT...

ACTUALLY, DOCTOR O'HARA, THE PANOPTICHRON DOESN'T *HAVE* AN OUTSIDE.

IF YOU KNOW MY **REAL NAME**, YOU MUST BE THE "HEATHER" THESE GUYS KEEP MENTIONING.

HEATHER HUDSON, FELLOW PhD.

SO WHAT'S A **PANOPTICHRON?**

THIS PLACE. "CRYSTAL PALACE" IS JUST A NICK-NAME.

YOU'RE STANDING IN A TRANSDIMENSIONAL **OBSERVATORY**, LOCATED OUTSIDE OF SPACE-TIME, OVERLOOKING EVERY PARALLEL REALITY IN THE **MULTIVERSE.**

OKAY...WE'RE **OUTSIDE** SPACE AND TIME...SURROUNDED BY **NOTHINGNESS**...SO THERE'S NO VANTAGE POINT FROM WHICH YOU COULD SEE OUR EXTERIOR...

YOU CATCH ON FAST.

YEAH, BUT MY HEAD HURTS JUST **THINKING** ABOUT IT.

URGENTLY MUST WE SPEAK!

LEMME GUESS--PROTEUS IS WRECKING THE MULTIVERSE?

NO, HEATHER HUDSON. YOU ARE.

I AM?

ALL OF YOU ARE.

THAT'S *RICH*, COMING FROM THE GUYS WHO DAMAGED SO MANY REALITIES TO *BEGIN* WITH--!

YOU SPEAK TRUE... BUT WE WORK TO *REPAIR* OUR MISTAKE. WHAT *YOU* DO NOW--HUNTING SUBJECT-PROTEUS--DEVIATES FROM YOUR *MISSION*.

YOU MEAN CLEANIN' UP *YOUR* COSMIC TRAIN WRECK.

IN CASE YOU *MISSED* IT, WE DON'T WORK FOR YOU ANYMORE.

ARGUMENTING IS POINTLESS. DAMAGE ACCRETION IS *IRREFUTABLE!*

DOES THIS SAY WHAT I *THINK* IT SAYS?

I CAN'T MAKE HEADS OR TAILS OF IT, HEATHER.

IT SAYS WE THREW OFF THE *INTENDED* COURSE OF HISTORY IN THE LAST TWO REALITIES WE CHASED PROTEUS THROUGH.

BUT...DON'T OUR MISSIONS *ALWAYS* CHANGE HISTORY?

THOSE CHANGES NECESSARY TO SAVE *BROKEN* REALITIES.

RECENT INCURSIONS CREATE *NEW BRANCHES* OFF ESTABLISHED TIMELINES. IMPOSSIBLE TO DETERMINE LONG-TERM IMPACT.

MEANWHILE, DAMAGED WORLDS EXILES *SHOULD* REPAIR ARE CLOSER TO COLLAPSE!

SO WE SHOULD JUST GO BACK TO *WORK* AND LET CALVIN'S MURDERER RUN *FREE?*

UH-UH. NO WAY.

BUT...

ALERT, HEATHER HUDSON. SUBJECT-PROTEUS REACQUIRED IN REALITY NUMBER *SEVEN-ONE-TWO.*

PULL IT UP ON THE *REALITY INDEX.* LET'S SEE WHO HE'S AFTER *THIS* TIME.

EARTH SEVEN-TWELVE...

AW, NO...NOT *THEM...*

EARTH #712

3 MILES ABOVE UTOPIA ISLE

HE'S NOT GOING TO LIKE US COMING TO HIS RESCUE.

WE CAN'T BE CONCERNED WITH WOUNDING HIS *PRIDE.*

WE NEED TO GET HIM AND THE OTHERS OUT OF THERE *ALIVE.*

WORLD SQUADRON SUPREME TOUR

PART 1 OF 2

TONY BEDARD
WRITER

J. CALAFIORE
PENCILER

MARK McKENNA
INKER

TOM CHU
COLORIST

DAVE SHARPE
LETTERER

SEAN RYAN
ASST. EDITOR

NICK LOWE
ASSOC. EDITOR

MIKE MARTS
EDITOR

JOE QUESADA
EDITOR IN CHIEF

DAN BUCKLEY
PUBLISHER

HOW DID THE GLOBAL DIRECTORATE *FIND* US?

UTOPIA ISLE WAS *HIDDEN* FROM THE EYES OF MEN.

I DON'T KNOW, ZARDA, BUT IT LOOKS LIKE THEY MOBILIZED ALL THEIR BLUE EAGLE SHOCK TROOPS...

MASTER MENACE DESIGNED THEIR WEAPONS.

THEY HAVE THINGS THAT CAN HURT EVEN ***YOU,*** HYPERION.

ATTENTION, **SQUADRON SUPREME!** YOU ARE **UNDER ARREST** FOR POSSESSION OF UNREGISTERED PARA-HUMAN ABILITIES!

SURRENDER OR FACE **SUMMARY EXECUTION!**

GET OFF MY ISLAND!

I CAN'T LET YOU HURT MY *FRIENDS*, EVEN IF YOU *ARE* BRAINWASHED!

SMASH

GYAAARHHH!

GET AWAY FROM HIM!

...WHU...?

ARGONITE LASERS. I *TOLD* YOU THEY COULD HURT YOU.

DON'T... KILL THEM... ZARDA...

THEY DON'T PLAY BY YOUR RULES, HYPERION...

...SO NEITHER CAN I.

SQUADRON SUPREME COMMAND BUNKER

FEELS LIKE THEY'RE POUNDING THE WHOLE ISLAND--! HOW ARE THE *OTHERS* DOING?

"...*SKYMAX* IS ENGAGING THEIR AIR FORCE. RADAR SHOWS MORE FIGHTERS INCOMING.

"*AMPHIBIAN* IS ABOUT A MILE OFF THE COAST. BLUE EAGLE *NAVY* HAS HIM ON THE RUN."

HANGONJUST AMINUTEWHILEI ACCESSTHEORBITAL CAMERANETWORK.

SLOWLY, WHIZZER

RIGHT. SORRY...

GO BACK HIM UP, *WHIZZER.* I'LL FLY UP AND HELP SKYMAX.

DOCTOR SPECTRUM TO THE RESCUE, HUH? IF ONLY *ZARDA'S* PEOPLE WERE STILL AROUND...

.. WE COULD REALLY USE A WHOLE ARMY OF POWER PRINCESSES RIGHT ABOUT NOW.

CAREFUL, MEN! HE WAS LAST SEEN IN THIS AREA.

AT LEAST HE DOESN'T HAVE ANY SUPERPOWERS.

DO NOT UNDER-ESTIMATE--

THERE HE IS!

CHOOM CHOOM CHOOM

SKRAK SKRAK

HE'S CORNERED!

NIGHTHAWK! WE HAVE ORDERS TO TAKE YOU ALIVE FOR INTERROGATION AND RE-EDUCATION.

SO I CAN END UP LIKE YOU? NOT IN A MILLION YEARS.

YOU'RE IN NO POSITION TO REFUSE.

CAPTAIN...

?

SOOPP

COULD BE ONE OF HIS TRICKS.

RRRRRRP

OH.

AM I INTERRUPTIN' SOMETH--

OPEN FIRE!

FZAAAM

CHOOM CHOOM

THAT HURT, YE MISERABLE SLAGS!

C'MERE!

SLAM

AIEEEE!

WHATEVER HAPPENED TAE "WELCOME" AN' "HOW D'YE DO"?

WHRAK

YOU WITH THEM?

NO.

CARE TAE TELL ME WHERE I CAN FIND A BLOKE, GOES BY THE NAME O HYPERION...?

...OKAY, ZARDA... STRENGTH RETURNING...

...HOW'S IT LOOK...?

HONESTLY?

LIKE A GLORIOUS DAY TO D.E.

MAYBE SO, POWER PRINCESS..

...BUT DON'T COUNT US OUT YET.

NIGHTHAWK?

I MADE A NEW FRIEND...

"...I'LL INTRODUCE YOU, SOON AS HE CLEARS THE SKIES."

RAHHRR!

BY MY MOTHER'S SWORD, HE'LL NOT DO SO ALONE!

THEY HIT YOU WITH ARGONITE?

YES, BUT THE EFFECTS ARE FADING.

THEN GET OFF THE SIDELINES AND GIVE THOSE TWO A HAND! WE'LL QUIZ THE GREEN STRANGER SOON ENOUGH.

"...FOR NOW, HE'S PICKED THE RIGHT SIDE TO FIGHT ON."

GREAT ZENON! WE'RE TURNING THE TIDE!

AS IF THE OUTCOME WAS EVER IN DOUBT.

THIS BATTLE REMAINS UNDECIDED, SPECTRUM. THE WHIZZER AND AMPHIBIAN HAVE YET TO--

ATTENTION: BLUE EAGLES! NAVAL FORCES WITHDRAWING!

GLOBAL DIRECTORATE HAS ORDERED A TACTICAL RETREAT!

20 MINUTES LATER...

...YE DINNAE SEEM SURPRISED THAT I COME FROM ANOTHER REALITY.

ACTUALLY, MOST OF US HAVE TRAVELED TO OTHER UNIVERSES.

THE REAL QUESTION IS WHY DID YOU MAKE THE TRIP? WHAT DO YOU WANT FROM HYPERION?

I...NEED HELP. I WAS TOLD OF YUIR KINDNESS BY A MUTUAL FRIEND--A WEE LAD WHO CALLS HIMSELF "BEAK."

IF HE'S TRULY YOUR FRIEND, THEN YOU KNOW HIS REAL NAME.

AYE. BARNELL BOHUSK.

WHAT'S HE TALKING ABOUT, HYPE?

A BIRD-BOY WHO CAME HERE WEEKS AGO SEEKING HELP AGAINST AN EVIL HYPERION.

HE WAS WITH A GROUP CALLED THE "EXILES" WHO GO AROUND ALTERING OTHER UNIVERSES.

SO YOU SHUT DOWN THESE EXILES, RIGHT?

NO. HE LEFT THE BOY TO SUPERVISE THEM--TO ACT AS THEIR CONSCIENCE.

NOT YOUR BEST DECISION EVER.

SHE'S RIGHT. THE EXILES DITCHED BARNELL.

THEN I TRIED TAE STOP 'EM, AND THEY'VE HUNTED ME EVER SINCE.

IF YOU AREN'T ONE OF THEM, HOW'D YOU GET HERE?

BLOOONK

STEP AWAY FROM THAT *MONSTER.*

D'YE SEE WHAT I *MEAN?*

NOW, *WAIT* A MINUTE...

CAN'T *RISK* WAITIN'!

HELP OR GET OUTTA THE WAY!

+WHUNG+

THIS MAN FOUGHT AT OUR SIDE!

THE *EXILES*, I PRESUME?

DROP 'EM, SQUADRON! WE'LL TALK IT OUT ONCE THEY'RE *IN CUSTODY!*

+OOOF+

ZOOOM

YOUPEOPLE JUSTMADEA *BIGM*STAKE!

SO DID YOU...

CHOMP

IDIOT! WE'RE TRYIN' TA SAVE YA!

IF YOU HURT BARNELL, I SWEAR YOU'LL PAY FOR IT!

YOU'RE OUT OF YOUR DEPTH, GIRL!

Y'THINK?

BOY, ARE *YOU* ABOUT TO FEEL STUPID...

BLOOONK

YOU'RE NOT BAD, BUT MY PEOPLE *INVENTED* SHAPE-SHIFTING!

AND YET YOU *STILL* RUN AROUND WITH A *SKID-MARK* FOR A CHIN?

THIS IS GOIN' *MUCH* BETTER THAN I'D HOPED.

LOVE TAE HANG ABOUT AN' WATCH 'EM GET THEIR FACES PANNED IN ...

...BUT MY WORK HERE IS *DONE.*

VORRRP---!!

STAY DOWN, LITTLE MAN!

WHAK

WHATEVER YOU DID TO WHIZZER, YOU BETTER *PRAY* HE RECOVERS!

FACE IT, EXILES, YOU'RE OUTMATCHED! SURRENDER BEFORE ONE OF YOU GETS HURT!

ARRRRRHHH!

C'MON, MORPH, I'M BLINKING US ALL OUT OF HERE.

JUST ONE PROBLEM...

...I'M NOT MORPH.

KLUDD

-URK-

OH, HE FOUGHT BRAVELY, BUT NEVER REALLY STOOD A CHANCE...

...AGAINST THE SKRULLIAN SKYMASTER.

NEXT: SENTENCED BY THE SQUADRON